## **BACKGROUND**

This application is a division of parent application serial no. 09/844,226 filed 04/27/2001. The parent application was subject to a restriction requirement in which claims were classified into two groups.

Applicant now presents the claims in the non-elected group for prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

David N. Lathrop Reg. No. 34,655

601 California St., Suite 1111 San Francisco, CA 94108-2805

Telephone: (415) 989-8080 Facsimile: (415) 989-0910

Enc. Return receipt postcard

Utility Patent Application Transmittal

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I certify that this Preliminary Amendment and all enclosed materials are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on November 26, 2003 as "Express Mail," mailing label EV326498555US, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Jean C. Reed